United Nations A/73/502

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 93

Reduction of military budgets

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Reduction of military budgets" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 35/142 B.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November.[2]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures (A/73/154).

5. No proposals were submitted and no action was taken by the Committee under this item.

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[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27, A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

United Nations A/73/503

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 94

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 72/22.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November.[2]

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.33

5. On 15 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Georgia, Haiti, Kazakhstan, Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Portugal and Trinidad and Tobago, submitted a draft resolution entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty" (A/C.1/73/L.33). Subsequently, Canada, Mexico, the Republic of Moldova and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 26th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.33 without a vote (see para. 7).

[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27, A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/53 of 10 December 1996 and 56/17 of 29 November 2001 and all its other relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Organization of African Unity and of the African Union,

Recalling also the signing of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba) in Cairo on 11 April 1996,[1]

Recalling further the Cairo Declaration adopted on that occasion,[2] in which it was emphasized that nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, enhance global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the statement made by the President of the Security Council on behalf of the members of the Council on 12 April 1996,[3] in which the Council affirmed that the signature of the Treaty constituted an important contribution by the African countries to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in the Middle East, would enhance the security of Africa and the viability of the African nuclear-weapon-free zone,

1. *Recalls with satisfaction* the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba)[1] on 15 July 2009;

2. *Calls upon* African States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Treaty as soon as possible;

3. *Recalls* the convening of the first Conference of States Parties to the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Treaty of Pelindaba), on 4 November 2010, the second Conference of States Parties, on 12 and 13 November 2012, the third Conference of States Parties, on 29 and 30 May 2014, and the fourth Conference of States Parties, on 14 and 15 March 2018, all held in Addis Ababa;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the nuclear-weapon States that have signed the Protocols to the Treaty[1] that concern them, and calls upon those that have not yet ratified the Protocols that concern them to do so as soon as possible;

5. *Calls upon* the States contemplated in Protocol III to the Treaty that have not yet done so to take all measures necessary to ensure the speedy application of the Treaty to territories for which they are, de jure or de facto, internationally responsible and which lie within the limits of the geographical zone established in the Treaty;

6. *Calls upon* the African States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[4] that have not yet done so to conclude comprehensive safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency pursuant to the Treaty, thereby satisfying the requirements of article 9 (b) and annex II to the Treaty of Pelindaba, and encourages them to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards

[1] A/50/426, annex.
[2] A/51/113-S/1996/276, annex.
[3] S/PRST/1996/17; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1996* (S/INF/52).
[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

agreements on the basis of the model protocol approved by the Board of Governors of the Agency on 15 May 1997;

7. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency for the diligence with which they have rendered effective assistance to the signatories to the Treaty;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty".

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 95

Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly decision 71/513.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November.[2]

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of draft decision A/C.1/73/L.47

5. At its 30th meeting, on 8 November, the Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe" (A/C.1/73/L.47), submitted by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.1/73/L.47 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

The General Assembly decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled "Maintenance of international security — good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe".

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[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27 and A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

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General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 96

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly decision 72/512.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November.[2]

4. No documents were submitted for consideration under this item.

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.27/Rev.1

5. On 8 November, the representative of the Russian Federation, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burundi, Cambodia, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security" (A/C.1/73/L.27/Rev.1). Subsequently, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan and Myanmar joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 31st meeting, on 8 November, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Secretary-General concerning the financial implications of the draft resolution and reported that it superseded the statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution that had been issued as document A/C.1/73/L.71.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.27/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 109 to 45, with 16 abstentions (see para. 11, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste,

[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27, A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

[3] Subsequently the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Congo indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Haiti, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Senegal, Switzerland, Turkey.

B. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.37

8. On 18 October, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Advancing responsible State behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security" (A/C.1/73/L.37). Subsequently, Albania, Chile, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. At the 31st meeting, on 8 November, the Secretary informed the Committee that a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution had been issued as document A/C.1/73/L.72.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.37 by a recorded vote of 139 to 11, with 18 abstentions (see para. 11, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:[4]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius,

[4] Subsequently the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Congo indicated that it had intended to vote in favour, and the delegations of Mozambique and Pakistan indicated that they had intended to abstain.

Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Against:

Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Botswana, Burundi, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Myanmar, Namibia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal, Uganda.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

11. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/103 of 9 December 1981, 43/78 H of 7 December 1988, 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015 and 71/28 of 5 December 2016,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Underscoring the aspirations of the international community to the peaceful use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) for the common good of humankind and to further the sustainable development of all countries, irrespective of their scientific and technological development,

Noting that capacity-building is essential for cooperation of States and confidence-building in the field of ICT security,

Recognizing that some States may require assistance in their efforts to bridge the divide in the security of ICTs and their use,

Noting that providing assistance, upon request, to build capacity in the area of ICT security is essential for international security,

Affirming that capacity-building measures should seek to promote the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes,

Confirming that ICTs are dual-use technologies and can be used for both legitimate and malicious purposes,

Expressing concern that a number of States are developing ICT capabilities for military purposes and that the use of ICTs in future conflicts between States is becoming more likely,

Stressing that it is in the interest of all States to promote the use of ICTs for peaceful purposes, with the objective of shaping a community of shared future for humankind in cyberspace, and that States also have an interest in preventing conflict arising from the use of ICTs,

Noting that the United Nations should play a leading role in promoting dialogue among Member States to develop common understandings on the security of and the use of ICTs, as well as in developing common understandings on the application of international law and norms, rules and principles for responsible State behaviour in this sphere, encourage regional efforts, promote confidence-building and transparency measures and support capacity-building and the dissemination of best practices,

Expressing concern that embedding harmful hidden functions in ICTs could be used in ways that would affect secure and reliable ICT use and the ICT supply chain for products and services, erode trust in commerce and damage national security,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Underlining the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of ICTs,

Welcoming the effective work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the relevant outcome reports transmitted by the Secretary-General,[1]

Welcoming also that, in considering the application of international law to State use of ICTs, the Group of Governmental Experts, in its 2015 report,[2] identified as of central importance the commitments of States to the following principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other international law: sovereign equality; the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered; refraining in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations; respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; and non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States,

Confirming the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts, in its 2013[3] and 2015[2] reports, that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful ICT environment, that voluntary and non-binding norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States in the use of ICTs can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and that, given the unique attributes of such technologies, additional norms can be developed over time,

Confirming also that State sovereignty and international norms and principles that flow from sovereignty apply to State conduct of ICT-related activities and to their jurisdiction over ICT infrastructure within their territory,

Reaffirming the right and duty of States to combat, within their constitutional prerogatives, the dissemination of false or distorted news, which can be interpreted as interference in the internal affairs of other States or as being harmful to the promotion of peace, cooperation and friendly relations among States and nations,

Recognizing the duty of a State to abstain from any defamatory campaign, vilification or hostile propaganda for the purpose of intervening or interfering in the internal affairs of other States,

Stressing that, while States have a primary responsibility for maintaining a secure and peaceful ICT environment, effective international cooperation would benefit from identifying mechanisms for the participation, as appropriate, of the private sector, academia and civil society organizations,

1. *Welcomes* the following set of international rules, norms and principles of responsible behaviour of States, enshrined in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and

[1] A/65/201, A/68/98 and A/70/174.
[2] A/70/174.
[3] A/68/98.

Telecommunications in the Context of International Security of 2013[3] and 2015[2] adopted by consensus and recommended in resolution 71/28 entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security", adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2016:

1.1. Consistent with the purposes of the United Nations, including to maintain international peace and security, States should cooperate in developing and applying measures to increase stability and security in the use of ICTs and to prevent ICT practices that are acknowledged to be harmful or that may pose threats to international peace and security.

1.2. States must meet their international obligations regarding internationally wrongful acts attributable to them under international law. However, the indication that an ICT activity was launched or otherwise originates from the territory or objects of the ICT infrastructure of a State may be insufficient in itself to attribute the activity to that State. Accusations of organizing and implementing wrongful acts brought against States should be substantiated. In case of ICT incidents, States should consider all relevant information, including the larger context of the event, the challenges of attribution in the ICT environment and the nature and extent of the consequences.

1.3. States should not knowingly allow their territory to be used for internationally wrongful acts using ICTs. States must not use proxies to commit internationally wrongful acts using ICTs and should seek to ensure that their territory is not used by non-State actors to commit such acts.

1.4. States should consider how best to cooperate to exchange information, assist each other, prosecute terrorist and criminal use of ICTs and implement other cooperative measures to address such threats. States may need to consider whether new measures need to be developed in this respect.

1.5. States, in ensuring the secure use of ICTs, should respect Human Rights Council resolutions 20/8 of 5 July 2012[4] and 26/13 of 26 June 2014[5] on the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet, as well as General Assembly resolutions 68/167 of 18 December 2013 and 69/166 of 18 December 2014 on the right to privacy in the digital age, to guarantee full respect for human rights, including the right to freedom of expression.

1.6. A State should not conduct or knowingly support ICT activity contrary to its obligations under international law that intentionally damages critical infrastructure or otherwise impairs the use and operation of critical infrastructure to provide services to the public.

1.7. States should take appropriate measures to protect their critical infrastructure from ICT threats, taking into account General Assembly resolution 58/199 of 23 December 2003 on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity and the protection of critical information infrastructures, and other relevant resolutions.

1.8. States should respond to appropriate requests for assistance by another State whose critical infrastructure is subject to malicious ICT acts. States should also respond to appropriate requests to mitigate malicious ICT activity aimed at the critical infrastructure of another State emanating from their territory, taking into account due regard for sovereignty.

[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and A/67/53/Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

[5] Ibid., *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

1.9. States should take reasonable steps to ensure the integrity of the supply chain so that end users can have confidence in the security of ICT products.

1.10. States should seek to prevent the proliferation of malicious ICT tools and techniques and the use of harmful hidden functions.

1.11. States should encourage responsible reporting of ICT vulnerabilities and share associated information on available remedies for such vulnerabilities to limit and possibly eliminate potential threats to ICTs and ICT-dependent infrastructure.

1.12. States should not conduct or knowingly support activity to harm the information systems of the authorized emergency response teams (sometimes known as computer emergency response teams or cybersecurity incident response teams) of another State. A State should not use authorized emergency response teams to engage in malicious international activity.

1.13. States should encourage the private sector and civil society to play an appropriate role to improve security of and in the use of ICTs, including supply chain security for ICT products and services. States should cooperate with the private sector and the organizations of civil society in the sphere of implementation of rules of responsible behaviour in information space with regard to their potential role;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further, at multilateral levels, the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible strategies to address the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

3. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through further examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

4. *Invites* all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,[1] to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(a) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(b) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(c) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 3 above;

(d) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level;

5. *Decides* to convene, beginning in 2019, with a view to making the United Nations negotiation process on security in the use of information and communications technologies more democratic, inclusive and transparent, an open-ended working group acting on a consensus basis, to continue, as a priority, to further develop the rules, norms and principles of responsible behaviour of States listed in paragraph 1 above, and the ways for their implementation; if necessary, to introduce changes to them or elaborate additional rules of behaviour; to study the possibility of establishing regular institutional dialogue with broad participation under the auspices of the United Nations; and to continue to study, with a view to promoting common understandings, existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them and how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, as well as

confidence-building measures and capacity-building and the concepts referred to in paragraph 3 above, and to submit a report on the results of the study to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session, and to provide the possibility of holding, from within voluntary contributions, intersessional consultative meetings with the interested parties, namely business, non-governmental organizations and academia, to share views on the issues within the group's mandate;

6. *Also decides* that the open-ended working group shall hold its organizational session in June 2019 in order to agree on the organizational arrangements connected with the group;

7. *Further decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

Draft resolution II
Advancing responsible State behaviour in cyberspace in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012, 68/243 of 27 December 2013, 69/28 of 2 December 2014, 70/237 of 23 December 2015 and 71/28 of 5 December 2016, as well as its decision 72/512 of 4 December 2017,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this progress the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

Confirming that information and communications technologies are dual-use technologies and can be used for both legitimate and malicious purposes,

Stressing that it is in the interest of all States to promote the use of information and communications technologies for peaceful purposes and to prevent conflict arising from the use of information and communications technologies,

Expressing concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States, to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Underscoring the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation among States in combating the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Underlining the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

Welcoming the effective work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the 2010,[1] 2013[2] and 2015[3] reports transmitted by the Secretary-General,

Stressing the importance of the assessments and recommendations contained in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts,

Confirming the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts, in its 2013 and 2015 reports, that international law, and in particular the Charter of the United

[1] A/65/201.
[2] A/68/98.
[3] A/70/174.

Nations, is applicable and essential to maintaining peace and stability and promoting an open, secure, stable, accessible and peaceful information and communications technology environment, that voluntary and non-binding norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States in the use of information and communications technologies can reduce risks to international peace, security and stability, and that, given the unique attributes of such technologies, additional norms can be developed over time,

Confirming also the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts that voluntary confidence-building measures can promote trust and assurance among States and help to reduce the risk of conflict by increasing predictability and reducing misperception and thereby make an important contribution to addressing the concerns of States over the use of information and communications technologies by States and could be a significant step towards greater international security,

Confirming further the conclusions of the Group of Governmental Experts that providing assistance to build capacity in the area of information and communications technology security is also essential for international security, by improving the capacity of States for cooperation and collective action and promoting the use of such technologies for peaceful purposes,

Stressing that, while States have a primary responsibility for maintaining a secure and peaceful information and communications technology environment, effective international cooperation would benefit from identifying mechanisms for the participation, as appropriate, of the private sector, academia and civil society organizations,

1. *Calls upon* Member States:

(a) To be guided in their use of information and communications technologies by the 2010,[1] 2013[2] and 2015[3] reports of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security;

(b) To support the implementation of cooperative measures, as identified in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts, to address the threats emerging in this field and ensure an open, interoperable, reliable and secure information and communications technology environment consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Invites* all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts, to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(a) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in this field;

(b) The content of the concepts mentioned in the reports of the Group of Governmental Experts;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, to be established in 2019 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, proceeding from the assessments and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned reports, to continue to study, with a view to promoting common understandings and effective implementation, possible cooperative measures to address existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security, including norms, rules and principles of responsible behaviour of States, confidence-building measures and capacity-building, as well as how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, and to submit a report on

the results of the study, including an annex containing national contributions of participating governmental experts on the subject of how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, to the General Assembly at its seventy-sixth session;

4. *Requests* the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat, through existing resources and voluntary contributions, on behalf of the members of the group of governmental experts, to collaborate with relevant regional organizations, such as the African Union, the European Union, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Regional Forum of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, to convene a series of consultations to share views on the issues within the mandate of the group in advance of its sessions;

5. *Requests* the Chair of the group of governmental experts to organize two two-day informal consultative meetings, open-ended so that all Member States can engage in interactive discussions and share their views, which the Chair shall convey to the group of governmental experts for consideration;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

United Nations A/73/506

General Assembly

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Seventy-third session
Agenda item 97

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 72/24.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November[2].

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (A/73/182 (Part I) and A/73/182 (Part II)).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.1

5. On 28 September, the representative of Egypt submitted a draft resolution entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East" (A/C.1/73/L.1).

6. At its 26th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.1 by a recorded vote of 174 to 2, with 5 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay,

[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27 and A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

[3] Subsequently, the delegation of Cuba informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000, 56/21 of 29 November 2001, 57/55 of 22 November 2002, 58/34 of 8 December 2003, 59/63 of 3 December 2004, 60/52 of 8 December 2005, 61/56 of 6 December 2006, 62/18 of 5 December 2007, 63/38 of 2 December 2008, 64/26 of 2 December 2009, 65/42 of 8 December 2010, 66/25 of 2 December 2011, 67/28 of 3 December 2012, 68/27 of 5 December 2013, 69/29 of 2 December 2014, 70/24 of 7 December 2015, 71/29 of 5 December 2016 and 72/24 of 4 December 2017 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (d), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, in which all parties directly concerned are called upon to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

[1] Resolution S-10/2.

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 72/24,[2]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned seriously to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[3]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not yet done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(62)/RES/12, adopted on 20 September 2018 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its sixty-second regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (d) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[1] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 72/24;[2]

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[2] A/73/182 (Part I).

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to the report of the Secretary-General of 10 October 1990[4] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

[4] A/45/435.

United Nations A/73/507

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Agenda item 98

Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, in accordance with Assembly resolution 72/25.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October,

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November.[2]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Conference on Disarmament (A/73/27).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.4

5. At the 12th meeting, on 19 October, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, Honduras, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Libya, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), submitted a draft resolution entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (A/C.1/73/L.4). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Colombia, Iraq, Kuwait, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 26th meeting, on 1 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.4, by a recorded vote of 122 to none, with 65 abstentions (see para. 7). The voting was as follows:[3]

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

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[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27 and A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

[3] Subsequently the delegation of Cuba informed the Secretariat that they had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kiribati, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to humankind and to the survival of civilization,

Noting that the renewed interest in nuclear disarmament should be translated into concrete actions for the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament,[1] in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[2] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament,[3] and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special

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[1] Resolution S-10/2.

[2] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

session, the third special session devoted to disarmament,[4] as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[5]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, in which it is stated, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[6] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Thirteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Kuala Lumpur on 24 and 25 February 2003,[7] which was reiterated at the Seventeenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held on Margarita Island, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 13 to 18 September 2016, as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000, 56/22 of 29 November 2001, 57/56 of 22 November 2002, 58/35 of 8 December 2003, 59/64 of 3 December 2004, 60/53 of 8 December 2005, 61/57 of 6 December 2006, 62/19 of 5 December 2007, 63/39 of 2 December 2008, 64/27 of 2 December 2009, 65/43 of 8 December 2010, 66/26 of 2 December 2011, 67/29 of 3 December 2012, 68/28 of 5 December 2013, 69/30 of 2 December 2014, 70/25 of 7 December 2015, 71/30 of 5 December 2016 and 72/25 of 4 December 2017,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure

[4] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session*, Supplement No. 2 (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[5] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session*, Supplement No. 27 (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

[6] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session*, Supplement No. 27 (A/48/27), sect. III.F.

[7] See A/57/759-S/2003/332, annex I.

non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be further explored in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international agreements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

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Agenda item 99

Prevention of an arms race in outer space

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Prevention of an arms race in outer space:

"(a) Prevention of an arms race in outer space;

"(b) No first placement of weapons in outer space;

"(c) Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space."

was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions 72/26, 72/27 and 72/250.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November.[2]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Conference on Disarmament (A/73/27).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.3

5. On 25 September, the representatives of Egypt and Sri Lanka, on behalf of Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Egypt, Eswatini, Honduras, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), submitted a draft resolution entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/73/L.3). Subsequently, Armenia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Ecuador, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Samoa, Uruguay and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 28th meeting on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.3 by a recorded vote of 181 to 2, with 1 abstention (see para. 11, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar,

[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27 and A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Palau.

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.51

7. On 16 October, the representative of the Russian Federation, on behalf of Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, Chad, China, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Guinea, Honduras, Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft resolution entitled "No first placement of weapons in outer space" (A/C.1/73/L.51). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At its 28th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.51 by a recorded vote of 129 to 12, with 40 abstentions (see para. 11, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia,

Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Estonia, France, Georgia, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Tuvalu.

C. Draft decision A/C.1/73/L.50

9. On 16 October, the representatives of China and the Russian Federation, on behalf of Algeria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burundi, China, Cuba, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malawi, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, South Africa, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia and Zimbabwe, submitted a draft decision entitled "Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space" (A/C.1/73/L.50). Subsequently, Armenia, Belarus, Ecuador, Eritrea, Guinea, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan joined in sponsoring the draft decision.

10. At the 28th meeting on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft decision A/C.1/73/L.50 by a recorded vote of 127 to 3, with 49 abstentions (see para. 12). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri

Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Ukraine, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Eswatini, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

11. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all humankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[1]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] in which it is stated that, in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, the most recent of which is resolution 72/26 of 4 December 2017, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[3]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts for the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Conference on Disarmament and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive, structured and focused debate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space at the Conference on Disarmament each year from 2009 to 2018,

Noting the introduction by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament of the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects in 2008 and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[4]

Taking note of the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to establish for its 2009 session a working group to discuss, substantially, without limitation, all issues related to the prevention of an arms race in outer space, and the decision to establish for its 2018 session a subsidiary body on the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[1]

2. *Reaffirms* its recognition, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance

[3] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), para. 76.

[4] See CD/1839 and CD/1985.

its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to establish a working group under its agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" as early as possible;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

Draft resolution II
No first placement of weapons in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all humankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space and of outer space turning into an arena for military confrontation, and bearing in mind the importance of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[1]

Conscious that the prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger to international peace and security,

Reaffirming that practical measures should be examined and taken in the search for agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space in a common effort towards a community of shared future for humankind,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with the existing legal regime providing for the peaceful use of outer space,

Reaffirming its recognition that the legal regime applicable to outer space by itself does not guarantee prevention of an arms race in outer space and that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime,

Convinced that such measures could critically improve conditions for efficiently addressing the threat of an arms race in outer space, including the placement of weapons in outer space,

Welcoming, in this regard, the draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects, introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[2] and the submission of its updated version in 2014,[3]

Considering that transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities are an integral part of the draft treaty referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 69/32 of 2 December 2014, 70/27 of 7 December 2015, 71/32 of 5 December 2016 and 72/27 of 4 December 2017, and its resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990 and 48/74 B of 16 December 1993, which, inter alia, confirm the importance of transparency and confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space,

Noting the importance of the political statements made by a number of States[4] that they would not be the first to place weapons in outer space,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of the objective of preventing an arms race in outer space and the willingness of States to contribute to reaching this common goal;

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 610, No. 8843.

[2] See CD/1839.

[3] See CD/1985.

[4] Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Tajikistan, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

2. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral negotiating forum on this subject,[5] has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement, or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

3. *Urges* an early commencement of substantive work based on the updated draft treaty on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space and of the threat or use of force against outer space objects,[3] introduced by China and the Russian Federation at the Conference on Disarmament in 2008,[2] under the agenda item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space";

4. *Stresses* that, while such an agreement is not yet concluded, other measures may contribute to ensuring that weapons are not placed in outer space;

5. *Encourages* all States, especially spacefaring nations, to consider the possibility of upholding, as appropriate, a political commitment not to be the first to place weapons in outer space;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space", the sub-item entitled "No first placement of weapons in outer space".

[5] See resolution S-10/2.

12. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Draft decision
Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly, recalling its resolution 72/250 of 24 December 2017 and other resolutions on this matter, decides:

(a) To welcome the commencement of the work of the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts tasked with considering and making recommendations on substantial elements of an international legally binding instrument on the prevention of an arms race in outer space, including, inter alia, on the prevention of the placement of weapons in outer space;

(b) To welcome the discussions in subsidiary body 3 of the Conference on Disarmament on the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

(c) To include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space", the sub-item entitled "Further practical measures for the prevention of an arms race in outer space".

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Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Muna Zawani **Md Idris** (Brunei Darussalam)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament" was included in the provisional agenda of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolution 72/28.

2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2018, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2018, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 93 to 108. Also at its 1st meeting, the Committee decided, on the basis of conference room papers before it,[1] on the final composition for the exchange with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. At its 2nd to 11th meetings, from 8 to 12 and from 15 to 18 October, the Committee held a general debate on the items. At its 8th meeting, on 16 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative on the follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted by the Committee at previous sessions and on reports presented to the Committee for its consideration, with a special focus on the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. At its 10th meeting, on 17 October, the Committee had an exchange with the High Representative and other high-level officials on the current state of affairs in the field of arms control and disarmament. The Committee also held 15 meetings (11th to 25th), on 18 and 19, from 22 to 26 and from 29 to 31 October, for thematic discussions and panel exchanges with independent experts. At those meetings, as well as during the action phase, draft resolutions were introduced and

[1] A/C.1/73/CRP.2 and A/C.1/73/CRP.3, available at www.un.org/en/ga/first/73/documentation73.shtml.

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considered. The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at its 26th to 31st meetings, on 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 November.[2]

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts (A/73/177).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.65/Rev.1

5. On 30 October, the representative of India, on behalf of Austria, Bhutan, the Central African Republic, Croatia, Germany, India, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain and Sweden, submitted a draft resolution entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament" (A/C.1/73/L.65/Rev.1). Subsequently, Bangladesh, Canada, Finland, Guinea, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mauritius, Montenegro, Singapore, Slovenia and Switzerland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At the 30th meeting, on 8 November, the Secretary of the Committee informed the Committee that the main sponsors of draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.65/Rev.1 had revised the text by deleting the twelfth preambular paragraph.[3]

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/73/L.65/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 8).

[2] For an account of the Committee's discussion of the item, see A/C.1/73/PV.1, A/C.1/73/PV.2, A/C.1/73/PV.3, A/C.1/73/PV.4, A/C.1/73/PV.5, A/C.1/73/PV.6, A/C.1/73/PV.7, A/C.1/73/PV.8, A/C.1/73/PV.9, A/C.1/73/PV.10, A/C.1/73/PV.11, A/C.1/73/PV.12, A/C.1/73/PV.13, A/C.1/73/PV.14, A/C.1/73/PV.15, A/C.1/73/PV.16, A/C.1/73/PV.17, A/C.1/73/PV.18, A/C.1/73/PV.19, A/C.1/73/PV.20, A/C.1/73/PV.21, A/C.1/73/PV.22, A/C.1/73/PV.23, A/C.1/73/PV.24, A/C.1/73/PV.25, A/C.1/73/PV.26, A/C.1/73/PV.27, A/C.1/73/PV.28, A/C.1/73/PV.29, A/C.1/73/PV.30 and A/C.1/73/PV.31.

[3] See A/C.1/73/PV.30.

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

8. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Underlining the keen interest of the international community to keep abreast of the latest developments in science and technology of relevance to international security and disarmament and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Mindful of the need to regulate the transfer of technologies for peaceful uses, in accordance with relevant international obligations, to address the risk of proliferation by States or non-State actors,

Acknowledging the need to continue the exchange of technologies for peaceful uses, including in accordance with relevant international obligations,

Mindful of the rights of States, reflected in relevant international agreements, regarding the development, production, transfer and use of technologies for peaceful purposes, in accordance with relevant international obligations, as well as the need for all Member States to fulfil their obligations in relation to arms control and disarmament and to prevent proliferation in all its aspects of all weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery,

Cognizant of the discussions on developments in science and technology at the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and within the meetings of experts on science and technology under the 2018–2020 intersessional programme established by the 2017 Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction,

Cognizant also of the discussions in the Conference on Disarmament in 2018 under its subsidiary body 5,

Mindful of the discussions in other forums, such as the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities and on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in the United Nations disarmament machinery,

Noting the discussions on various dimensions of emerging technologies under the framework of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[1] and welcoming the adoption of the report of the 2018 session of the Group of Governmental Experts on lethal autonomous weapons systems, including the section on emerging commonalities, conclusions and recommendations,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1342, No. 22495.

Noting also the discussions within the United Nations and the specialized agencies on developments in the field of information and communications technologies, including in the context of international security,

Acknowledging that the accelerating pace of technological change necessitates a system-wide assessment of the potential impact of developments in science and technology on international security and disarmament, with due regard to avoiding duplication and complementing efforts already under way in United Nations entities and in the framework of the relevant international conventions,

Taking note of the reference in the agenda for disarmament of the Secretary-General to his report on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts,[2]

Noting the discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts in the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters during its sixty-ninth and seventieth sessions, in 2018,

1. *Invites* Member States to continue efforts to apply developments in science and technology for disarmament-related purposes, including the verification of disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation instruments, and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to remain vigilant in understanding new and emerging developments in science and technology that could imperil international security, and underlines the importance of Member States engaging with experts from industry, the research community and civil society in addressing this challenge;

3. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts,[2] in which he highlights recent developments in science and technology, including in artificial intelligence and autonomous systems, biology and chemistry, advanced missile and missile-defence technologies, space-based technologies, electromagnetic technologies and materials technologies, and takes note of the section containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session an updated report on recent developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts, with an annex containing submissions from Member States giving their views on the matter;

5. *Encourages* the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters to continue its discussions on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to convene, from voluntary contributions, a one-day focused informal seminar in Geneva in 2019 on the role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament, in order to facilitate dialogue among relevant stakeholders on current developments in science and technology and their potential impact on international security and disarmament efforts;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

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[2] A/73/177.